



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/690,198
Applicant : Collins *et al.*
Filed : October 16, 2000
TC/A.U. : 1617
Examiner : Shahnam J. Sharareh

Confirmation No. 2250

Docket No. : 07959.105025
Customer No. : 20786

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of March 12, 2003, for which a response is due on September 12, 2003, with a three month extension of time, please amend the above-referenced application as follows. A Petition for a three month extension of time is enclosed.

Amendment to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 25 of this paper.

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